

R&DAA

INFORMATION SHEET

OCTOBER 2020

GENERAL SECRETARYS REPORT

TREASURER

Keith is still in Salisbury General Hospital where he is recovering from a series of infections. Our best wishes go to him for a speedy recovery.

MEMBERSHIP

We have seen a slowing down of permit sales in the past month but that was to be expected after the hectic start of the season. Sales compared to last season shows a massive change to how permits are purchased with a large move to online...

Since the introduction of two classes of Junior permits we have gone from 33 in 2019 to 196 at present with 106 6-12year and 90 12-17year olds.

The Night permit sales prove that the increased membership is not all new members with all Night Permit sales showing increases.

ANGLING TUITION

The first three sessions have been held at Callows and Willmotts Pools and despite a slow start the last two were sell outs. We have carried out this tuition in partnership with Canals & Rivers Trust Lets Fish events and this has helped enormously with advertising

FISAGERIES OFFICERS REPORT.

WATER TEMPERATURES

Now that the air temperatures have returned to what we'd expect to see at this time of year, we can breathe a little easier. There were times when some of our venues were on a 'knives edge' due to high water temperature, which in turn leads to a lack of dissolved oxygen. Although we are well prepared for such events, it can be a stressful time.

With the drop in water temps, around the fisheries the fishing has been good as a rule. I'm hearing of a good many barbel, across the size range being caught from the Kennet, along with good bags of silvers to the 'pleasure' anglers. The lakes have also been chucking up some big weights of silvers.

Brown Lee is, as usual putting grins on anglers faces, as is both Callows and Willmotts. I even had a dabble on Willmotts on two consecutive evenings, catching in excess of 35lb of fish each time.

The carp fishing on our big Carp waters has been nothing short of superb. Farnham Flint has even produced it's largest ever fish.....a common carp of 52lbs 4ozs.

DEPUTY FISHERIES OFFICER

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With the season getting off to a flyer as far as membership is concerned, the rise in Del's workload over recent years, coupled with the fact that he is not getting younger, it was felt the time was right for some 'succession' planning in the form of a deputy fisheries officer. Jamie Stansfield was the obvious candidate.

I first met Jamie when he approached me in 2016, asking if he could do some work experience. This was in order to complete his Sparsholt college fisheries management qualifications.

Jamie was required by Sparsholt to do 2 weeks with me, he stayed on for 3, such was his enthusiasm. I have over the years had numerous students such as Jamie, but I have always maintained Jamie (even at 17) was a cut above the rest and if ever the opportunity should arise, he'd be my first choice as my future successor. His passion, commitment and drive is every bit as big as mine and I'm confident that when I start to wind things down personally (next 10 years or so) Jamie will more than fill my boots and drive RDAA forwards as we have always sought to do.